Southern/Eastern Region and allocation from unallocated quota of NTPC stations in Eastern Region.

Cooperation in Nuclear Power

2942. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have established co-operation with any country in the field of nuclear power;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the programmes drawn up by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) and (c) Based on the provisions of the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) and the Supplement to the IGA signed between the Governments of India and the Russian Federation, the Government of India has accorded financial sanction for the setting up of 2x1000 VVER type nuclear power project at Kundankulam in Radhapuram Taluk, Tamil Nadu at an estimated cost of Rs. 13,171 crore. The Government of Russian Federation is extending a State credit upto 2600 Million US Dollars to cover 85% of the expenses of the scope of works of the Russian organisations in the project. The balance 15% as well as the expenses of the scope of works of the Indian organisations in the project is borne by the Indian side. The work on the project has been started with the first pour of concrete on March 31, 2002. The scheduled dates of completion of the project for commencing commercial operation are December 2007 and December 2008 for the first and second units, respectively.

Power generation projects using nuclear fuel

† 2943. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power generation projects arc in operation in the country using nuclear fuel;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the number of such projects during 1998-99 and the production capacity;

(c) the number of these projects during 2002-03 alongwith the production capacity; and

(d) the percentage of power generation out of the installed capacity of these power generation projects during above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) During the year 1998-99, there were ten (10) nuclear power reactors with a total capacity of 1840 MWe.

(b) During the year 2002-03, there were fourteen (14) nuclear power reactors with a total capacity of 2720 MWe.

(c) The percentage share of nuclear power in terms of total installed capacity in the country was about 2% in the year 1998-99 and 2.6% in the year 2002-03.

Exodus of BARC Scientists

2944. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(d) whether the service conditions of the BARC provide that if any employee leaves the service within three years, he has to give approximately one lakh rupees as compensation;

(e) whether despite such service conditions, a number of highly educated young scientists had left the BARC during the bond period by paying the compensation;

(f) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(g) whether Government have taken any measures to check the exodus of the scientists of BARC; and

(h) if so, the details thereof stating the reasons for imposing three years bond?